

House of Representatives, March 20, 1998. The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCDONALD, 148th DIST., Chairman of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONTRACTS WITH WATER UTILITY CONSULTANTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 25-33j of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof:

4 The Commissioner of Public Health may enter  
5 into [one contract per year with a consultant]  
6 CONTRACTS WITH CONSULTANTS to provide services to  
7 [a] water utility coordinating [committee. The  
8 amount of any contract shall not exceed one  
9 hundred thousand dollars] COMMITTEES. Any  
10 appropriation made to the Department of Public  
11 Health for the purposes of this section shall not  
12 lapse until [June thirtieth of the second year  
13 following the year for which the appropriation was  
14 made] THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAS  
15 COMPLETED THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR A WATER UTILITY  
16 COORDINATING COMMITTEE.

17 PH COMMITTEE VOTE: YEA 22 NAY 0 JF

\* \* \* \* \*

"THE FOLLOWING FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND BILL ANALYSIS ARE PREPARED FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION, SUMMARIZATION AND EXPLANATION AND DO NOT REPRESENT THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR EITHER HOUSE THEREOF FOR ANY PURPOSE."

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BILL NUMBER HB 5018**

STATE IMPACT                      Potential Cost, see explanation below

MUNICIPAL IMPACT                None

STATE AGENCY(S)                Department of Public Health

**EXPLANATION OF ESTIMATES:**

The bill removes a \$100,000 cap on consultant contracts entered into by the Department of Public Health (DPH) intended to assist Water Utility Coordinating Committees (WUCCs) in the development of water system plans. It also allows the agency to enter into more than one such contract. The sum of \$100,000 was first appropriated to the DPH for this purpose in SFY 1985-86 under the Other Expenses account. The agency has one contract in place in the current fiscal year.

Removing the \$100,000 cap and allowing more than one contract to be entered into annually may result in a cost to the Department of Public Health, as no additional funding (in excess of the \$100,000) has been included within its budget under Proposed Bill 5021 (the Revised SFY 1998-99 Appropriations Act, as recommended by the Governor) for this purpose. To the extent that the agency chooses to enter into an individual contract valued at greater than \$100,000 and/or more than one contract per year at a combined cost exceeding \$100,000, a cost will be incurred which would otherwise not have resulted given the restriction in current law.

The bill also extends the time period in which the DPH may expend a given fiscal year's appropriation for WUCC

consultant contracts. Statute currently authorizes these dollars to be non-lapsing until June 30th of the second year following the year for which the appropriation was first made. The bill potentially extends this time frame until the planning process is completed if this occurs at a later date.

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### **OLR BILL ANALYSIS**

HB 5018

#### **AN ACT CONCERNING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONTRACTS WITH WATER UTILITY CONSULTANTS**

**SUMMARY:** This bill expands the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner's authority to contract with water utility coordinating committee (WUCC) consultants by allowing him to contract with more than one WUCC consultant per year and by eliminating the \$100,000 contract cap. It also allows the funds appropriated to DPH for such contracts to be carried over until the WUCC planning process is completed, rather than through the next fiscal year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1998

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### **Water Utility Coordinating Committees**

The DPH commissioner must convene WUCCs in each water supply management area to develop water supply plans. The committees consist of one representative of each public water system with a source in the committee's management area and one representative of each regional planning agency in the area. The state is divided into seven management areas; DPH has convened WUCCs in three.

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Report  
Yea 22      Nay 0